Aeternitas-Scans

DANBI

11th CAT

3

Kim MiKyung

Danbi Original · Danbi Original · Danbi Original · Danbi Original · Danbi Original · Danbi Original · Danbi Original

11th CAT

vol.3

Kim MiKyung

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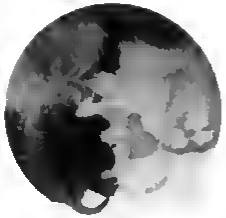
Words from the Creator



Mi-Kyung Kim

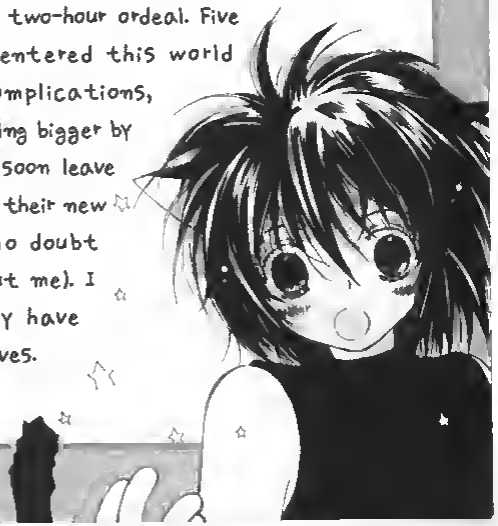
Birthday: February 29th

Sign: Pisces

Bloodtype: O

Here is a picture of some little kitties in need of adoptive parents. Pico became a part of my family when I was working on the 4th volume, and now she is the mother of five babies of her own. I really do hope that Pico's children find happiness wherever they end up.

We're up to Volume 3 already. I guess since I've posted a picture of Pico and her babies, I should talk about her. In the early afternoon of May 20, Pico entered into labor, eventually giving birth at around 7 pm. that evening. Unfortunately, I left her side for a brief moment to check something on the internet, and I missed the birth of the first kitten. I returned to find a pool of blood on the floor and a slick, black "things" quirming around next to Pico. This was just the beginning of her two-hour ordeal. Five little kittens entered this world without any complications, and they're growing bigger by the day. They'll soon leave our home to join their new families (and no doubt forget all about me). I pray that they have long and happy lives.



I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT. IT WAS HARD ENOUGH TO FIND THE GIFT, IT'S KIND OF SILLY NOT TO LOOK INSIDE.
OOPS
THIS IS TERRIBLE. THAT SIGN IS GIVING ME THE CREEPS.
TAP
WHAT'S THIS?
UNCLE...!
DO WE REALLY NEED TO TAKE MY FATHER'S PRESENT BACK WITH US? I CAN'T MAKE UP MY MIND!
WHY CAN'T YOU ACCEPT THAT THIS IS YOUR LEGACY?
TAKE WHAT'S YOURS, RIKA.
BUT I REALLY DON'T WANT TO!

IS THERE MAYBE A CHANCE THAT.. THAT THE RED . ?
THE WAY YOU TALK, IT'S AS IF YOU'D SEEN IT BEFORE.
I REALIZE THAT IT MAY SEEM PRETTY STRANGE..
—BUT--HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS?-- PRECIOUS THINGS OFTEN DO
OH, ARTHUR.. WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?! IF YOU WERE ALIVE, I'D SMACK YOU!
IF YOU REALLY FEEL IT'S THAT VALUABLE, UNCLE, THEN YOU SHOULD TAKE IT.
WHERE'RE YOU GOING..!
STRANGE I CAN HANDLE, BUT WEIRD IS A DIFFERENT STORY
AND IT LOOKS REALLY WEIRD.

COME ON, RIKA, DON'T YOU TRUST ME?
NOPE.
THUD
UH? ARE YOU DEAD?
OH...
OH, FINE! I GIVE UP!
RIP

YUCK! THIS IS AWFUL!
IS THIS REALLY WHAT YOU'D CALL A "LEGACY"? IT'S NOT SOME CRUEL JOKE?
THERE'S NO DENYING IT THAT'S LILA'S FIRE DRAGON STAFF!..
UNCLE, SINCE WE FOUND WHAT WE WERE LOOKING FOR, LET'S HURRY UP AND GO HOME
NOT YET..
BUT...
MASTER LOUIS!
A THOUSAND APOLOGIES IF YOU NEED TO PUNISH ME AND TAKE MY LIFE, YOU'D BE WITHIN YOUR RIGHTS THAT DAMN CAT GOT THE BEST OF ME
NOMI? NOMI'S HERE? WHERE IS HE?!?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM GETTING AWAY, JACQUE DEAD OR ALIVE, WE'D HAVE JUST LEFT HIM HERE ANYWAY

IT'S SIMPLE TAKE THE STAFF AND TAP ON THAT SIGN WHEN YOU DO, A DOOR WILL APPEAR. TAP IT AGAIN, AND THE DOOR WILL CLOSE.
...
JACQUE, NOW THAT WE HAVE ARTHUR'S LEGACY, YOU CAN SHOW US THE WAY BACK.
UNCLE !!!
WHAT?! DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THAT YOU DESPISED HIM?
NOW YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT HIM? WHY THE CHANGE OF HEART?

WHAM
WHIRRICK
...!
IT'S TOO HIGH FOR ME TO REACH WHY DON'T YOU CLIMB IN FIRST, UNCLE, AND THEN PULL ME UP
ALL RIGHT. TAKE MY HAND.
STAY ALERT.
I'M SORRY, UNCLE.
SHOVE

BANG
SHOOT
RIKA!
I CAN'T RETURN ALONE NOMI IS STILL OUT THERE
IT'S BEST IF YOU GO ON AHEAD, UNCLE.
FORGIVE ME
I CAN'T ABANDON NOMI .
ALL RIGHT, SICKO! SHOW ME WHERE TO GO!
I'M GOING TO FIND NOMI!
N.O.!
I'LL BURN YOU DOWN TO THE GROUND!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! THAT GIRL TRICKED ME!
!!!
WELL,WELL.. HAVE FUN ON YOUR LITTLE EXCURSION?
YOU! YOU'VE REWRITTEN THAT BOOK, HAVEN'T YOU? YOU WARPED THE REALM ARTHUR SEALED INSIDE IT!
I HOPE IT DIDN'T FAIL TO LIVE UP TO YOUR GREAT EXPECTATIONS.
TSK, I HARDLY TOUCHED IT. YOU WOULDN'T EVEN NOTICE. IT WAS SUCH A SMALL TOUCH-UP. WHY? ARE YOU AFRAID THAT YOUR PRECIOUS NIECE MIGHT GET HURT?
NOMI! NOMIIIII!!
WHERE ARE YOU-!?

LOOK, JUST FORGET ABOUT THAT LOSER AND GET OUTTA HERE!
SHUT UP, PERVERT!
HMPH
GRRRR
BOYS ARE ALWAYS SO RUDE!
NOMI!!
WHERE ARE YOU?!
COME ON, NOMI!
.....
RIKA...!!
NOMI!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YOU TOLD ME YOU HATED ME. OR DID YOU FORGET?
NO!
WHY AM I SAYING THESE THINGS? I DON'T MEAN THEM!
I WANTED RIKA TO COME BACK FOR ME .

...AND SHE DID
NOM!?
BUT SO WHAT?
HOW CAN I GIVE IN SO EASILY?!
BIG DEAL!
JACQUE, BEND DOWN A LITTLE.
OKAY, NOW UP.
RUSTLE
WHAT AM I? HER DOG?!
NOM!
WHAT THE--?! WHAT'RE YOU DOING UP HERE?

THE END
OUCH!
I CAME BACK BECAUSE I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU! WHY'RE YOU GETTING MAD AT ME?
WHY DID YOU HIT ME?
DON'T YOU KNOW HOW HARD I LOOKED FOR YOU, YOU BEAST?!
NO ONE HAS EVER BEEN CONCERNED FOR HOW I FELT. THAT IS, EXCEPT..
WELL
BUT WHY ..? WHY WOULD RIKA WORRY ABOUT SOMEONE LIKE ME?
NO ONE HAS EVER CARED ABOUT ME AS ANYTHING BUT THE SPIRIT OF THE BLACK WISHSTONE
..YOUR POWERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO ME
EXCEPT HIM.
HE WAS THE FIRST...
BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER, DOES IT?
NO OTHER HUMAN BEING HAD SPOKEN TO ME THAT WAY.
RIGHT THEN AND THERE
..I MADE A PACT WITH MYSELF TO NEVER LEAVE HIS SIDE.
HE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO HAD LOOKED AT ME FOR WHO I AM

ARE YOU REALLY THAT UPSET?
OF COURSE I AM! WOULDN'T YOU BE?
I'D THINK YOU'D WANNA THANK ME FOR COMING BACK TO GET YOU.
THE FIRE DRAGON STUFF CAN BE USED TO BEAT PEOPLE UP!
COME ON, NOMI, LET'S GO
HERE.
HE WAS THE ONLY PERSON..
..UNTIL NOW
I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF. I CAN'T VERY WELL LET A GIRL CARRY ME.
YOU DARE REJECT MY KINDNESS?!
OUCH!
ENOUGH JABBERIN'? GET DOWN!
!!!

I TOLD YOU I WON'T LET YOU AND I MEANT IT.
DO WHAT YOU MUST..
...BUT BE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH ME FIRST.
AS LONG AS YOU INTEND TO KILL NOMI, I CAN'T LET YOU GO BACK.
I HAVEN'T ABANDONED HIM YET.

IF YOU PROMISE NOT TO HARM NOMI, THEN I WON'T MESS WITH RIKA.
HAVE YOU DECIDED?
WHAT'S YOUR GAME HERE?
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU'D AGREE TO THAT JUST FOR NOMI.
WILL YOU ACCEPT MY OFFER, OR WON'T YOU?

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? I THINK I SAW A SNAIL PASS YOU 'CUZ YOU'RE SO SLOW.
YOU REALLY THINK I'M SLOW?
NEVER MIND! LET'S JUST GO!
RIKA, YOU HAVE EMBARRASSING HIM BEFORE...
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
빈정 빈정
...BUT NOW HE'S YOUR BEST FRIEND!
EEEEK! PUT ME DOWN!!
OLD MAN TREE! DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?
WHAT? WHERE? WHERE?!

WHAT WAS IT? I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!
I'M LETTING YOU DOWN, RIKA
WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT? I'M THE LAST LIVING SOUL AROUND
...IT'S COMING!!
NOT THERE! THERE!!
WHOOSH

BAM
OLD MAN TREE! TAKE RIKA AND GET OUT OF HERE!!
SMACK
OUCH!
LISTEN
...IT SEEMS LIKE I'M SLAPPING YOU A LOT BUT EVEN SO...
YOU SLAP ME AROUND A LOT MORE!
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS TRY TO DO EVERYTHING BY YOURSELF?! DO YOU THINK I'M USELESS OR SOMETHING? IS THAT IT?!
IT HAS TO BE .
THERE'S NO DOUBT. IT WAS HIS..
WHOOSH
OH, NO! I LEFT MY SWORD AT RIKA'S HOUSE.
IT'S SOMETHING NEW! NO ONE ELSE HAS BEEN TO THIS WORLD!
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!

YOU'RE CERTAINLY TAKING YOUR TIME, LOUIS HOW TOUGH OF A DECISION IS IT?
MAYBE SO. AND I CAN SEE THE VALUE IN CONSIDERING MY OFFER FROM EVERY ANGLE...BUT IT ALSO HAS A SHORT LIFE EXPECTANCY.
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE THAT'S REALLY YOUR ONLY CONDITION FOR LEAVING RIKA ALONE? IT SEEMS TOO EASY.
THERE IS LIFE RETURNING TO THIS BOOK, SOMETHING GROWING ON THE OTHER SIDE I CAN FEEL IT.
NOMI HASN'T THE WILL TO RESIST ME. HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO HELP RIKA EVEN IF HE WANTED TO.
AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, FIND OUT WHO'S PULLING HIS STRINGS
AND THERE IS ONE MORE THING...
YOU CAN HELP ME FIND RIKA'S FRIEND KIRIK. I LOST THE TRACK OF HIM AFTER HE LEFT THE GRAND WIZARD'S FOREST.

STAND BACK! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THESE FOUL CREATURES!
RIKA, NO!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND . HOW DID THAT GET HERE?
DON'T WORRY THIS STAFF WILL HELP ME. I'VE BEEN DYING TO TRY IT OUT.
IT DOESN'T LOOK ALL THAT HELPFUL
DON'T DO IT! COME BACK HERE, RIKA!
PUFF
NO LACK OF CONFIDENCE
JUST A PUFF? WHAT HAVE I BET MY LIFE ON..?
CAN IT ACTUALLY DO ANYTHING?
DoUbT DoUbT
NOM!?
RIKA, PLEASE STOP! IT'S TOO DANGER-OUS! THOSE THINGS ARE--!!
!
WAAAAA--!!

RIKA!!

RIKA!!
AH!
THUMP
THUMP

THUMP
THUMP
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

PHWA-
POW
WAS HE ABLE TO SENSE IT?...
SO, THAT'S WHERE YOU'VE BEEN HIDING, EH?

MY PRINCE HAS FINALLY COME♥

WAKE UP, YOU STUPID CAT!
WHAT WAS THAT--?
WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE'D THEY GO?
I WAS HOPING YOU COULD TELL ME!

AAAACH...!
RIKA!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WERE YOU HURT?
WHERE DID THE MONSTERS GO?
I DON'T KNOW. THEY JUST VANISHED.
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO FICKLE...? YOU...
I GUESS IT DOESN'T MATTER WE SHOULD JUST GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE. YOU KNOW HOW TO GET BACK HOME, RIGHT?
OKAY!
THE STAFF MISSED ITS CHANCE
TO SHOW ITS AWESOME POWER.

FAREWELL, RIKA. I HOPE YOU'LL VISIT AGAIN WHEN YOUR BODY HAS ACTUALLY DEVELOPED.
EH, BUT WE
WHIR
PLINK
OKAY, RIKA, LET'S GO

I'M SO HAPPY THAT WE'RE FINALLY GOING TO GO HOME AGAIN!
ME, TOO
WHIRRICK
TEEHEE, GOOD! EVERYBODY'S TO BAD MANNERS.

I NEED TO BE CAREFUL HOW MUCH POWER I PUMP INTO IT. THE SEAL IS VERY OLD, AND IF SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENS AGAIN, IT MAY BE TOO MUCH...
I NEED TO STAND BACK AND LET EVENTS UNFOLD
BANG
GOING INTO THE BOOK WORLD DIDN'T HURT THIS BAD...
OUCH
WELCOME HOME.
"WELCOME HOME"?! IS THAT REALLY ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?
YOU KNOW, WE NEARLY DIED BECAUSE OF YOU! AND FRANKLY, I'M PISSED!
WHATEVER YOU'RE THINKING OF DOING, STOP. DON'T EVEN MOVE.
NO WAY! TELL ME!
WHAT'S ALREADY HAPPENED HE WAS MAD.
I WASN'T EVEN TALKING TO YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
OH, NEVER MIND.

WHERE'S UNCLE LOUIS?
DID HE MAKE IT BACK SAFELY?
HE DID, BUT I ASKED HIM TO DO A FAVOR FOR ME. HE WON'T BE LONG
BY THE WAY, HOW'S THE NEW STAFF WORKING OUT?
IF IT SUITS YOUR NEEDS,
YOU SHOULD RETURN THE ONE YOU HAD BEFORE TO THE GRAND WIZARD, SINCE YOU WON'T BE NEEDING IT ANYMORE
I WONDER IF ANYONE EVEN REMEMBERS.
THE GRAND WIZARD'S STAFF...?
OH.. THIS?
.....!

ULTERIOR MOTIVE
ooo
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE GAVE ME A NEW EXCUSE TO LEAVE HOME ALREADY!
YOU'RE RIGHT. I DON'T NEED IT, SO I MIGHT AS WELL TAKE IT WHERE IT'LL BE USEFUL.
RIKA'S GOING NOWHERE.
NO, I WON'T PERMIT IT.
I SECOND THAT.
TOO BAD. SHE ALREADY LEFT.
WHAT?!!!
DON'T WORRY.
I'M GOING TO KEEP MY END OF THE BARGAIN WITH LOUIS. I WON'T TOUCH HER.

MY AUNTS MUST'VE BEEN FURIOUS WHEN THEY FOUND OUT.
BOY, THIS SURE FEELS GOOD~♥
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT WAS SO EASY TO GET OUT OF THE HOUSE AGAIN!
RIKA, WHY DO I HAVE THE FEELING YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GO STRAIGHT HOME AFTER YOU RETURN THE STAFF?
TAKE A WILD GUESS!
RIKA'S STILL HOLDING ON TO HER DREAM OF BECOMING A REAL WIZARD.
THIS TIME, I'M GOING TO TRAIN SUPER HARD AND BECOME A REAL WIZARD!
WIZARD!?!
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY LUCK BUMPING INTO AN HONEST-TO-GOODNESS WIZARD! HEAVEN MUST BE SMILING ON ME TODAY!
PLEASE, IT'S FATE! YOU HAVE TO HELP US!
DEAR GOD, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SENDING A WIZARD TO OUR RESCUE...
ACK! NO! WAIT! WHERE'RE YOU GOING?
Crisis
UH...
WE'LL COMPENSATE YOU...?!

RIKA, DON'T LET MONEY TEMPT YOU! YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THE JOB IS, MUCH LESS IF YOU'RE CAPABLE.
TRUE. BUT I LEPT HOME IN SUCH A HURRY, I FORGOT EVERYTHING. I'M DEAD BROKE!
OKAY...I'LL TALK TO THE VILLAGE ELDERS ABOUT IT I'M SURE WE CAN COME UP WITH SOME KIND OF PAYMENT
BUT...
KEEP IN MIND, WE'RE REALLY POOR.
SOB
WHY DO I FEEL LIKE I JUST STEPPED INTO A HUGE MESS?
BECAUSE THAT'S YOUR SPECIAL TALENT, MY DEAR

I'LL GO WITH YOU, BUT IF THERE'S NO MONEY, I'M GOING TO BAIL. NOTHING'S FREE IN THIS WORLD, NOT EVEN ME. I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE HAVING A HARD TIME, BUT RIKA'S GOT TO BE PAID!
ENOUGH OF THIS CHIT-CHAT. JUST WHAT IS IT YOU WANT US TO DO?
DARN! MY BARGAINING-FU IS WEAK INDEED!
WHO IS THIS GUY?
WE HAVE NO WATER

WATER?
BUT THERE'S PLENTY OF WATER IN THIS FOREST
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! WE HAVEN'T HAD A SINGLE DROP OF RAIN IN OUR VILLAGE FOR THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS!
ALL THE WELLS HAVE DRIED UP, AND AT THIS RATE, WE'LL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ABANDON OUR HOMES!
HMM. STRANGE...
TELL ME, WHY AREN'T YOU ASKING A DRAGON FOR HELP?
!
I'M SURE YOU KNOW THIS, BUT DRAGONS CONTROL THE WEATHER PATTERNS. YOU SHOULD TALK TO ONE, GET HIM TO MAKE IT RAIN.
WE'RE STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF A DRAGON'S LAIR, AFTER ALL
EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT THE DRAGONS.. EVEN THE STUPIDEST VILLAGER KNOWS HOW THE WEATHER OCCURS
THE FACT THAT HE CAME LOOKING FOR A WIZARD INSTEAD CAN ONLY MEAN... BUT, NO.
IT CAN'T BE.

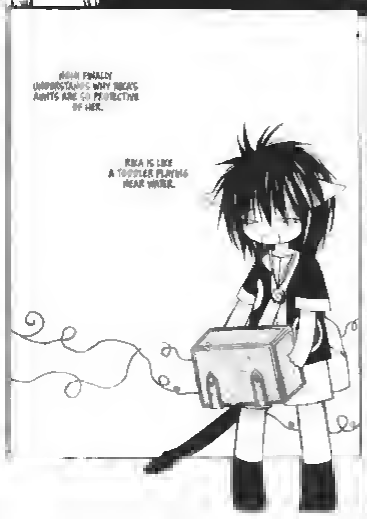
PLEASE DON'T TELL ME YOU CAME TO ASK US TO FIGHT A DRAGON
WHAT HAVE YOU PEASANTS DONE? A DRAGON WOULDN'T CAUSE A DROUGHT WITHOUT A GOOD REASON
...

WHAT GAVE YOU SUCH A SILLY IDEA? NO, NO, WE'D HAVE TO BE STUPID TO GO UP AGAINST A DRAGON! HA-HA! LIKE WE HAVE SOME KIND OF DEATH WISH OR SOMETHING EQUALLY DUMB.
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
NO, I'M SURE THERE'S SOME OTHER EXPLANATION FOR THE DROUGHT. I'M JUST ASKING THAT YOU TO COME TO MY VILLAGE AND INVESTIGATE. YEAH! JUST INVESTIGATE!
I CAN DEAL WITH A MONSTER, EVEN AN EVIL SORCERER, BUT I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT A DRAGON
NO, NOMI!
WE'RE PENNILESS. IF WE LEAVE WITHOUT DOING THIS, WE'LL STARVE TO DEATH! IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?!
I'D RATHER TAKE MY CHANCES THAN GET SUCKERED INTO A BAD SITUATION.
WE'RE GETTING SIDETRACKED AGAIN. WE SHOULD HAVE NEVER STOPPED HERE

Rinlan
OH, NO!
WHY WOULD I KID ABOUT THAT?
HE WASN'T KIDDING WHEN HE SAID THEY WERE POOR!

A WIZARD IS HERE!
!!!
HELP US, WIZARD!
SHE'LL BRING PEACE TO OUR VILLAGE AT LAST!
DEAR GOD, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SENDING A WIZARD TO RESCUE US.
BOW
OH .. OH, MY...

I'M OUTTA HERE THIS PLACE GIVES ME THE CREEPS.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST ADMIT THAT YOU'RE AFRAID OF DRAGONS, NOMI?
EEP
THAT'S TOTALLY NOT TRUE!
OH, REALLY? ALL RIGHT, THEN...


NOW FINALLY UNDERSTANDS WHY REA'S AUNTS ARE SO PROTECTIVE OF HER.
REA IS LIKE A TODDLER PLAYING NEAR WATER.

WHERE DID SHE GET ALL THAT SELF-CONFIDENCE?

WE'VE PREPARED A SMALL PARTY TO WELCOME YOU, WIZARD RIKA, AND TO WISH YOU WELL ON YOUR MISSION TO HELP US. HAVE FUN, EVERYONE!
I DUNNO...
DIDN'T HE CLAIM THEY DIDN'T HAVE A SINGLE DROP OF WATER? SO, HOW COULD THEY PREPARE THIS SHINDIG?
PSST. NOM!

WHY'RE YOU SITTING THERE ALL ALONE?
I BROUGHT THIS FOR YOU I THINK YOU'LL LIKE IT
NO, NO! I MUST RESIST TEMPTATION!
GAAAAAA--!
GULP
꿀꺽
I CAN'T CONTROL MYSELF!!
OH! NOW YOU'VE DONE IT, NOM!!
THANK GOODNESS THE WINE WAS WORTH IT!
THERE'RE BOTH OUT COLD.
THE EFFECTS SHOULDN'T WEAR OFF UNTIL MORNING.

TAKE THE BOY TO THE STORAGE SHED AND LOCK HIM UP. MAKE SURE THE ROPES ARE TIGHT!
THEN SEND THE GIRL AWAY.
I DON'T FEEL GOOD ABOUT IT, BUT WE HAVE NO CHOICE.
YES, SIR!
LET'S HURRY. WE HAVE TO BE DONE BY SUNRISE

SKRRRTCH
YOWCH!
HEY, NOMI! WAKE UP! WAKE UP!!
NOMI!!
SIERRA P!
TUT, TUT! LOOK AT YOURSELF...
CURSED SILVER-VINE WINE!!
AH-HA! I THOUGHT I SMELLED SOMETHING FUNNY!
THE FUMES ARE PRACTICALLY GETTING ME DRUNK

하아~
YAWN
STOP THAT! IT'S ANNOYING. AND I'LL PAY RIGHT BACK OUTTA SHAPE!
HUH?
OH, COME ON, I'M JUST GLAD TO SEE YOU. WHY HAVEN'T YOU COME TO VISIT SOONER?
CAN'T STAY ANGRY AT THAT FACE!
BESIDES, HOW COULD I COME SOONER? MY EVERY MOVE IS WATCHED.
YOU MORON! FOOL!
EH?
RIGHT, UNTIE ME! THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE! CAN'T YOU SEE?! I'M GOING TO WIPE OUT THAT ENTIRE VILLAGE!
NO!
AWW, WHY NOT?!
IF I UNTIE YOU, YOU'LL JUST GO OUT LOOKING FOR THAT GIRL AGAIN. I'M HERE BECAUSE YOU NEED TO BE PRIED FROM HER GRIP.
HE WANTS TO SEE YOU, NOM!
HE...YOU-KNOW-WHO TOLD ME TO FETCH YOU.
.....
HE'S BEEN MISSING YOU ALL THIS TIME

WELL, TAKE HIM BACK A MESSAGE FOR ME
I CAN'T GO BACK TO HIM! IT'LL MESS ME UP AGAIN, PROBABLY WORSE THAN BEFORE
TELL HIM TO FORGET HE EVER KNEW ME...
...BECAUSE HE'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN
NOM!
IT WAS GOOD TO SEE YOU, SIERRA I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO RUIN IT BY DREDGING UP THE PAST.
C'MON, KID!
IT'S OVER WE'RE ALL DIFFERENT NOW.
WHY CAN'T HE SEE THAT?
...OHHH...
MY HEAD...
...'S KILLING ME.

OWIE! MY BACK HURTS, TOO! I MUST HAVE SLEPT IN A FUNNY POSITION.
A FIELD OF FLOWERS...?
RIKA HAS A MIND OF A TEN-YEAR-OLD AND THE BODY OF A SIXTY-YEAR-OLD.
CREAK
HOW DID I GET HERE?
LAST NIGHT, I WAS WITH THE VILLAGERS .

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
!
THE VILLAGE .AND NOMI ...! THEY'RE ALL GONE. WHERE AM I?
BAM

NOMI IS SMILING,
...IS ACTUALLY
PRETTY FURIOUS
I FELL FOR YOUR DIRTY TRICK. YOU SHOULDN'T TAMPER WITH A CAT'S WINE!
YOU WON'T CATCH ME BEING THAT DUMB--OR THAT NICE--AGAIN, SO I SUGGEST YOU SPILL YOUR GUTS. WHY DID YOU BRING US HERE? WHERE'S RIKA?
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME? THERE'S MORE BEATINGS TO BE HAD!
NO, NO...!
RIKA WAS SENT AWAY TO BE A DRAGON'S BRIDE.

RIKA IS...
YOU MEAN IT'S NOT POSSIBLE?
OF COURSE IT ISN'T ONLY A DRAGON CAN MARRY A DRAGON
HA-HA-HA!
HOW CAN A HUMAN BEING GET MARRIED TO A DRAGON?
WHAT?!
A DRAGON'S BRIDE?
STOP MUMBLING! SPEAK UP AND GIVE ME ALL THE GORY DETAILS!
OH, NO!... WE'RE IN BIG TROUBLE...

A DRAGON CAME INTO OUR VILLAGE SEVERAL MONTHS AGO INSISTING THAT WE'D TAKEN HIS BRIDE AND DEMANDING THAT WE RETURN HER. HE THREATENED US, SAYING HE'D KICK US ALL OUT OF THE VILLAGE IF WE DIDN'T DO WHAT HE SAID.
WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. NO ONE NEW HAD SET FOOT IN OUR VILLAGE IN A LONG TIME. NOT EVEN A WANDERING STRANGER, MUCH LESS A DRAGON'S BRIDE.
THE VILLAGE ELDERS THOUGHT MAYBE HE WAS REALLY DEMANDING THAT WE SURRENDER A WOMAN TO HIM.
RATHER THAN SACRIFICE ONE OF OUR OWN, WE DECIDED TO FIND AN OUTSIDER AND SEND HER TO THE BEAST. WE THOUGHT OUR LUCK HAD CHANGED WHEN WE FOUND RIKA, SO WE SENT HER OFF THIS MORNING.

YOU IMBECILE!
OUCH!
AND WE NEVER WOULD'VE COME HAD WE KNOWN!
OOO...
I KNEW YOU GUYS WERE FISHY RIGHT FROM THE GET-GO! IF YOU HADN'T BEEN SO SHADY AND TOLD ME THE TRUTH, NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE HAPPENED.
I'M FREAKING OUT! I REALLY, REALLY HATE DRAGONS. I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M GOING IN ONE'S LAIR!
I'M SORRY.

THAT GIRL'S GOING TO BE TROUBLE
I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO STAND UP AGAINST MORE POWERFUL WIZARDS, BUT NOW...
NOMI WON'T LEAVE WITH ME UNLESS RIKA DISAPPEARS COMPLETELY, FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, THAT YOU CAN JUST TRESPASS HERE?!
GO AWAY!
...?
EH? WHO IS THIS LITTLE BRAT?

LAST THING I REMEMBER, I WAS HAVING A GOOD TIME AT THE VILLAGE FEAST
THAT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A DREAM... SO MAYBE THIS IS?
HEY, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
WAIT A MINUTE! THOSE SNEAKS!
IF YOU WERE WITH THE VILLAGERS LAST NIGHT, MAYBE THEY WERE THE ONES WHO ABANDONED YOU HERE.
NOW SHUT UP AND TELL ME WHY YOU'RE HERE!!
YOU WATCH WHO YOU'RE CALLING A "BRAT." I'M PROBABLY OLDER THAN YOU, MISSY!
HOW DID HE KNOW WHAT I WAS THINKING?
DON'T YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT A DRAGON'S POWERS?
YOU CAN READ MY MIND? AMAZING.
FWOSSSH
HEY! IS THAT SARCASM? DON'T SMART OFF TO YOUR ELDERS, LITTLE GIRL!
YOU KNOW, I KEEP WONDERING THE SAME THING

WHAT MENTAL DEFECTIVES! THEY'RE BEYOND ALL RATIONAL ASSISTANCE!
THEY THINK YOU'RE BRIDE MATERIAL?
OH
POP
YOU LOOK HUGE IN THIS ROOM.
WHEN THEY DO A CLOSE-UP THEY SHOULD DRAW MY FACE PROPERLY.

COULD YOU SLOW DOWN AND MAYBE START FROM THE BEGINNING? I'M CONFUSED AS TO WHAT YOU MEAN.
PLEASE! I DON'T EXPLAIN MYSELF TO COMMONERS.
THWACK
WHERE DO YOU GET OFF INSULTING ME? I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU!

SLAP
I CAN DO WHATEVER I WANT.
YOU'RE NOTHING IN MY EYES MERELY A LOW-LEVEL DISCARD OF A STUPID, VIOLENT, EGOTISTICAL SPECIES.
HUMANS DISGUST ME YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL THAT I AM KIND-HEARTED ENOUGH TO HAVE LET YOU LIVE THIS LONG.
HUMMM
I CAN'T REMEMBER WHICH DRAGON LIVES IN THE AREA.
I NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT WHAT I'M DEALING WITH.
WHAT'RE YOU STILL DOING HERE? YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO RESCUE MIKA.
POOF
WANT ME TO TELL YOU?

WAAAAA!!
RUB
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE, SIERRA!
RUB
I TOTALLY FORGOT!
WHAT? A TALKING CAT?
YOU SHOULD KNOW,THOUGH, INFORMATION IS NEVER FREE.
OF COURSE, I KNOW THAT, OF COURSE.
SERVICES RENDERED~♥
SMOOCH
GAH, NOT THAT, YOU DOLT!

OKAY! TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW!
IT'S REALLY ANNOYING WHAT A HIGH PRIORITY YOU PLACE ON THIS GIRL.
THINK ABOUT IT FOR A SECOND THERE'S ONLY ONE DRAGON YOUNG ENOUGH TO BE IN SEARCH OF A BRIDE.
UNFORTUNATELY, HE'S NOTORIOUS FOR HIS FOUL TEMPER
THE WHITE DRAGON!

WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU PEOPLE? WHY DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH THAT GUY?!
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!
NOMI, TAKE THAT BOY WITH YOU. I THINK HE'LL PROVE USEFUL.
ME?

HE'S THE LAST PERSON I WANT WITH ME. HE'S IRRITATED ME ENOUGH ALREADY!
NOMI.
YOU CAN LEARN A LOT BY LISTENING TO A BRIDE-TO-BE
A what?
WHAT SHOULD I DO? HOW CAN I GET BACK TO THE VILLAGE?
MAYBE...

YOU?! WHY'RE YOU STILL HERE?
OOO, I HATE HIM SO MUCH. HAS HE EVER HEARD OF BEING POLITE?
I'VE NO "POLITE" WORDS TO WASTE ON YOU!!
OF COURSE OF COURSE.
ALL RIGHT, I'LL GET OUT OF YOUR LAIR...BUT ONLY IF YOU TELL ME SOMETHING.
WHY DID YOU HARASS THE VILLAGERS?
THAT'S WHAT THEY TOLD YOU? THAT I HARASSED THEM?
CRACKLE
ZZ
CRACKLE
ZZ
THOSE JERKS! FIRST THEY STEAL MY REAL BRIDE, AND THEN THEY DUMP SUCH A STUPID GIRL IN MY BACKYARD, AND JUST TO ADD INSULT TO INJURY, THEY SPREAD LIES ABOUT ME..?! NOW I REALLY *WILL* HARASS THEM--UNTIL THEY'RE ALL DEAD!
YOUR BRIDE? YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THAT THE VILLAGERS KIDNAPPED SOMEONE WHO WAS BETROTHED TO A DRAGON?
DON'T YOU KNOW ALL OF THIS ALREADY? AREN'T YOU *FROM* THE VILLAGE?

I..I'M A WIZARD THE VILLAGERS HIRED ME TO KILL A DRAGON..
KILL A DRAGON?!
CRACK
THAT'S IT! THEY ARE SO WIPED OUT!
WAIT! WAIT A MINUTE!
.....
IF WE DID ANYTHING WRONG, WE APOLOGIZE TO YOU, MR. DRAGON.
HONESTLY, THOUGH, WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WE DID TO MAKE YOU SO MAD AT US...
WHATEVER IT WAS, WE BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS AND ASK THAT YOU RESTORE PEACE TO OUR LIVES.
IT'S HER! THAT'S MY BRIDE!!
WHAT?!!

I'M TOTALLY LOST. I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S HAPPENING
HELP ME, RIKA!
I HAVE THE INNATE ABILITY TO PEER INTO THE PAST FOR ANSWERS TO OUR PRESENT
IT'S ONLY CONFUSING BECAUSE, NATURALLY, THE BOY ISN'T REALLY THE DRAGON'S BRIDE THERE IS A REASON WHY HE THINKS THE CHILD BELONGS TO HIM. THOUGH DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT THAT IS?
HE EVEN LOOKS LIKE A BOY.
B-BE-WHAT? YOU'VE LOST YOUR MIND! I'M A BOY!
I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU! MY BETROTHED♥
OH, DON'T BE SO SHY. IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE STRANGERS
EH DOO!!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
NOMI'S CONFUSED AS WELL
BUT FIRST, WHERE ARE MY MANNERS? LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF I'M SIERRA, NOMI'S LONG-TIME FRIEND. NICE TO FINALLY MEET YOU, RIKA.
BUT IF YOU WANT ME TO USE THIS POWER, YOU MUST FIRST PAY THE RIGHT PRICE.

IF YOU REFUSE TO GO...
I CAN TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED TO THE REAL DRAGON BRIDE AND...
.NOMI ..
I CAN RECOVER ANY OTHER MEMORIES CONCEALED BY SPELLS OF SECRECY
I'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE YOU BY OTHER MEANS

IT'S ALL RIGHT I'M NOT THAT INTERESTED.
WHAT?
THOUGH, THIS CONCEALED MEMORIES THING... IT SOUNDS KIND OF COOL.
SIERRA! HEY!
I MADE A GRAVE MISTAKE.
I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED SHE WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND ABOUT CONCEALED MEMORIES.
WAAAH
GLOOMY
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
SIERRA!
RIKA!!!
PLEASE! I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON!
YOU'LL BOTH HAVE TO TRUST ME...
...TO TAKE YOU WHERE WE'RE GOING.
I AM KINDA SERIOUS ABOUT THAT SITUATION THOUGH...
JUST A MINUTE AGO, THE DRAGON WAS BEING TOTALLY RUDE, AND NOW LOOK AT HIM!
STAY OUT OF THIS NOW. IT'S BETWEEN RIKA AND ME.
WHAT A MESS.
TWITCH
TWITCH

GOING ..?
WE'RE GOING SOMEPLACE?
SIERRA, I TOLD YOU TO CUT IT OUT! GET IT THROUGH YOUR HEAD: I'M NOT GOING BACK!
NOTHING BAD WILL HAPPEN TO YOUR PRECIOUS RIKA
ON THE CONTRARY, THERE'S SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO MEET HER
BRING HIM TO ME, SIERRA.
NOMI IS GOING TO REFUSE TO COME HERE AGAIN
TO HAVE YOURS AND NOMI'S FREEDOM RESTORED ONCE AND FOR ALL?
I KNOW.
DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO CHANGE HIS MIND AND BRING HIM TO ME
IF YOU PULL THIS OFF, I'LL RELEASE YOU FROM YOUR CONTRACT. ISN'T THAT THE THING YOU WANT MORE THAN ANY OTHER?

I'M SORRY, NOMI...
I WANT TO BE FREE.
JUST AS LONG AS YOU'RE GOOD FOR YOUR WORD.
NEVER MIND ABOUT ALL THAT.
THAT'S NO BIG DEAL. ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS ASK. THERE WAS NO NEED TO BARGAIN WITH ME.
SO, YOU WANT ME TO GO WITH YOU AND MEET THAT FRIEND OF NOMI'S?
SIERRA...
I'D BE HAPPY TO GO.
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS TO ME?
WHY WOULD YOU STOOP SO LOW JUST TO DRAG ME BACK TO THAT AWFUL PLACE?
I..
I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK!

IF I RETURN NOW, I'LL NEVER GET BACK OUT AGAIN.
BA-BUMP
GRANT ME STRENGTH...
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
BA-BUMP

SO, YOU'RE THAT DESPERATE, EH?
BE PATIENT A LITTLE BIT LONGER, NOMI.
IT'S A CHOICE BETWEEN YOUR LIFE AND HIS
AND THEN IT MAY BE TOO LATE, NOMI, BECAUSE YOU AND I NO LONGER HAVE ANY CONNECTION
UNTIL YOU REALIZE I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP YOU.
I CERTAINLY DON'T HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP YOU OUT.
...I HAVE NO INTENTION OF EXTENDING MY HAND TO AID YOU.
YOU BROUGHT IT UPON YOURSELF. YOU IGNORED MY ADVICE.

에?
IS THAT REALLY TRUE?
DON'T BE SO SUSPICIOUS.
AH-HA! SO, A NASTY DRAGON LIKE HIM HAS A PAINFUL PAST...
YOU KNOW, I THINK YOU'RE ENJOYING THIS A LITTLE TOO MUCH.
ARE YOU STILL MEAN?
HEY, YOU! YEAH, YOU, YOU STUPID OLD DRAGON!!!
RIKA HAS REGAINED HER SELF-CONFIDENCE...
DON'T YOU FIND IT HYSTERICAL THAT YOU SUDDENLY WANT YOUR BRIDE BACK AFTER SPENDING YEARS NEGLECTING HER IN FAVOR OF YOUR SILLY HOBBIES?
THAT BOY YOU'RE HOLDING ISN'T YOUR FORMER PARAMOUR--HE'S HER GRANDSON!
FOR YOUR INFORMATION, THE WHITE DRAGON'S HOBBIES INCLUDE:
TENDING HIS FLOWER GARDEN.
RESEARCHING NEW VARIETIES OF ROSES.
HUNTING FOR NEW PLANTS TO TRANSPLANT INTO HIS GARDEN
이건...

YOUR POOR FIANCEE, SHE WAITED FOR YOU IN VAIN FOR YEARS ON END...
...BEFORE SHE FINALLY FELL IN LOVE WITH A YOUNG MAN IN HER VILLAGE
싸!
STOP RIGHT THERE!
ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS BOY IS A MERE MORTAL?

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE PASSED, SIERRA? 105?

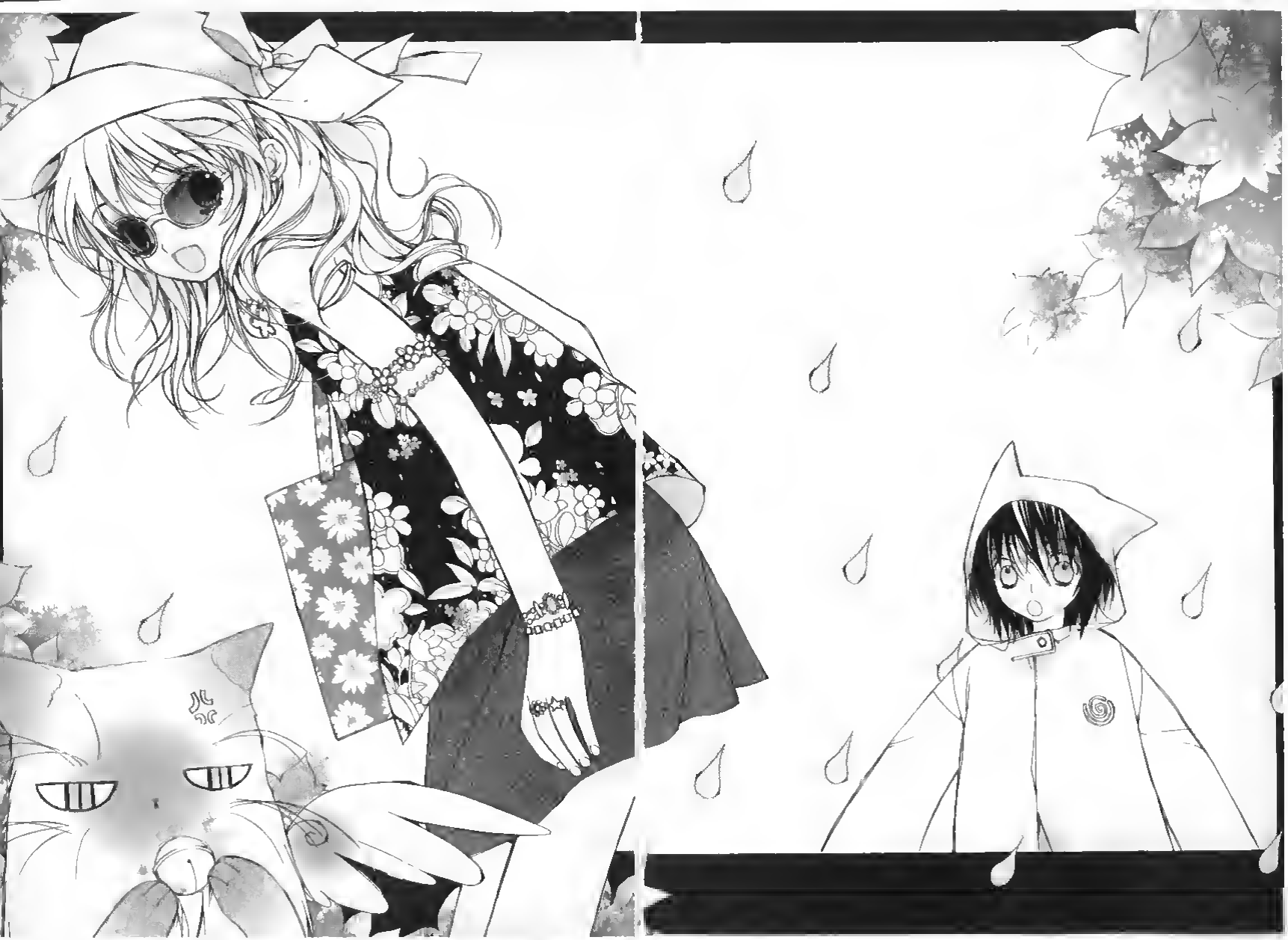
DEATH OF THE DRAGON!!
OH, NO!
NOW THAT THIS IS ALL CLEARED UP. ARE YOU GOING TO LIFT THE CURSE FROM MY VILLAGE?
IF I CAPITULATE AND LET A COMMON HUMAN GET AWAY WITH TAKING MY WOMAN FROM ME, I WON'T BE ABLE TO SHOW MY FACE ANYWHERE.
NO!
IT DOESN'T DISPROVE THAT THE VILLAGERS TOOK MY BRIDE FROM ME.
ARE YOU KIDDING? WHAT KIND OF LOGIC IS THAT? THESE VILLAGERS AREN'T RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR PATHETIC MISERY!
THEY'RE JUST ORDINARY PEOPLE!
YOU MAKE NO SENSE! YOU DID THIS TO YOURSELF!
YOU'RE A DRAGON. ACT LIKE ONE!
OR DO YOU GET SOME SICK THRILL OUT OF HARASSING INNOCENT PEOPLE?

WHERE DO YOU GET OFF SPEAKING TO A DRAGON THIS WAY?
I GUESS YOUR STUPIDITY HAS MADE YOU BOLD.
BEFORE YOU SPEW ANY MORE OF YOUR GIBBERISH, WHY DON'T YOU LOOK AROUND FIRST?
EH?
RIKA, THE DAUGHTER OF ARTHUR!
HOW DID HE KNOW? THE THOUGHT NEVER EVEN CROSSED MY MIND
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS BEFORE MEDDLING IN THAT OF OTHERS
I CAN DO MORE THAN READ YOUR THOUGHTS.
TAKE A GOOD LOOK, AND SEE WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FRIEND.
NOMI!

WHAT'S WRONG, NOMI?! WAKE UP!
NOMI!
RIKA!
AND ONE OF YOU IS EVEN FOOLISH ENOUGH TO USE MAGIC IN MY PRESENCE.
HOW PITIFUL. SUCH A PATHETIC DISPLAY!
SHUDDER
흠칫
RIKA...
I WANTED TO BE WITH YOU FOR A LONG TIME, RIKA
I REALLY, REALLY DID.
YOU SOUND LIKE SOMEONE WHO'S PREPARING TO LEAVE FOR GOOD.
BECAUSE...
WHY ARE YOU TALKING LIKE YOU WON'T GET THE CHANCE?

YOU'LL LEAVE ME, RIKA?
NOMI...

GO?
...BUT WHY?
WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOGETHER
ARE YOU TIRED OF ME NOW? IS THAT IT?



THAT'S NOT IT. I COULD NEVER GROW TIRED OF YOU.
WHAT THEN? I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT THE OUTSIDE WORLD?
EVEN IF I'M NOT FREE, I STILL WANT TO EXPLORE LIFE.
GOING OUR SEPARATE WAYS IS FOR THE BEST.
YOU'RE NOT LEAVING HERE, YOU'RE LEAVING ME!
LIAR! YOU'RE LYING!
YOU WERE WAITING UNTIL MY POWER WAS AT ITS WEAKEST TO TELL ME.
NO! WHY CAN'T YOU BELIEVE ME?
NOMI!
IT'S NOT BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE YOU ANYMORE. I JUST...
I WON'T LET YOU GO!
I'LL TRACK YOU DOWN AND DRAG YOU BACK FROM WHEREVER YOU RUN!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES... I'M FINE
NOMI..
HE NEEDS YOU..
YOU COLLAPSED. IT WAS SCARY.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE TO WHOM HE HAS EVER PLEDGED HIS HEART UNCONDITIONALLY.
.....
HMMM
RIKA!
WHAT IS IT, NOMI?
I WANT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING. PLEASE LISTEN AND DON'T INTERRUPT.
I KNOW I MUST RETURN SOMEDAY, BUT NOT NOW. I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK NOW.
...TRUTH BE TOLD, I RAN AWAY FROM HIM A LONG TIME AGO.
YOU WERE RIGHT. I WAITED UNTIL YOU WERE AT YOUR WEAKEST. I HAD NO CHOICE IF I WANTED TO ESCAPE FROM YOU.
THAT FRIEND OF MINE SIERRA WAS TALKING ABOUT...

NOMI, YOU DON'T WANT TO GO BACK THERE? IS THAT IT?
IS THERE SOMETHING ELSE YOU'RE NOT TELLING ME?
YOU STUPID GIRL!!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE AGREED BEFORE GETTING ALL THE INFORMATION...
NOW, THERE'S NOTHING TO BE DONE! YOU HAVE TO GO EVEN IF YOU DON'T WANT TO!
RIKA, YOU'VE ALREADY ENTERED INTO A BARGAIN WITH THAT CAT.
THAT'S MY LINE.
RIKA...
THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
I'M REALLY SORRY, BUT HE'S RIGHT. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO NOW. YOU CAN'T JUST CANCEL OUR AGREEMENT CAPRICIOUSLY
AT ONE TIME, YOU HAD THE CHANCE TO CHOOSE, BUT THAT TIME HAS PASSED.
THE CHANCE WAS WASTED.

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE IN A GOOD MOOD.
ARE YOU EXCITED TO BE SEEING NOMI AGAIN AT LONG LAST?
DON'T BE PRESUMPTUOUS!! AND DON'T FORGET THAT IT WAS YOUR ERROR THAT HAS DELAYED OUR REUNION FOR SO LONG.
I THINK YOU'VE BEEN SNIFFED OUT, KIRIK.
BY THE WAY, THE SWORD MASTER OF BLACK IRON HAS HAD SOMEONE TAILING YOU.

RIKA'S UNCLE, LOUIS.
HE'S DEFINITELY HERE TO SPY ON ME, BUT IT'S A USELESS ENDEAVOR
LEAVE HIM ALONE FOR NOW. HE MAY PROVE USEFUL IN SEPARATING NOMI FROM RIKA.
IT'S ALWAYS BETTER TO HAVE A FEW EXTRA CARDS IN YOUR HAND...
BUT...
USELESS OR NOT, WE SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS. WE CAN ONLY GUESS WHAT HIS TRUE INTENTIONS MAY BE.

LET'S HOPE THAT HE DOESN'T TRY TO INTERFERE WITH OUR PLAN.
HMM
HMM
I'M SORRY, NOMI, SO VERY SORRY! I'VE BEEN SO STUPID! I'M REALLY, REALLY SORRY!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. SURE I DON'T WANT TO GO...
...BUT IT'S A MEETING I CAN'T KEEP PUTTING OFF FOREVER.

HE'S LIKE ME, A SPIRIT OF A WISHSTONE WE WERE BORN ON THE SAME DAY, AT THE SAME TIME... WE'D BE TWINS IF WE WERE HUMAN
BUT UNLIKE ME, HE DOESN'T LIKE HUMAN BEINGS
HE REFUSED TO ENTER A CONTRACT WITH THEM AND THUS ISOLATED HIMSELF IN DARKNESS
어!?
REALLY?
HOW COME YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE HIM? ARE YOU ON THAT BAD OF TERMS WITH HIM?
NO.. I LIKE HIM A LOT, ACTUALLY.
HE REALLY IS LIKE MY BROTHER
THAT'S GOOD. IT WOULD SUCK IF YOU HATED HIM.
I STILL DON'T GET WHY YOU WON'T SEE HIM?
I ENVY YOU, RIKA...
YOUR PERSONALITY IS SO OPEN.
RIKA, YOU'RE ALWAYS OPTIMISTIC AND EASYGOING. YOU GET ALONG WITH EVERYONE, YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR FAMILY..
I WISH I WERE MORE LIKE YOU.
HEY, YOU TWO!
이봐, 너희들!!

A STRAW HAT FOR FARM WORKERS
WHAT ARE YOU DOING STILL HANGING AROUND?
A TOWEL PINCHED FROM A MOTEL.
DRAGON VILLAGE MOTEL
LARGE BACK-PACK AND GLOVES
WHITE RUBBER SHOES ON HIS FEET
SCRAM! GET OUT! MOVE IT OR LOSE IT!
SPEECHLESS
HA-HA-HA! LOOK AT YOURSELF! ARE YOU TRYING TO BE A FARMER?
SHUT UP! THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH WHAT I'M WEARING!
SURE IF YOU'RE GOING TO PLOW SOME FIELDS.
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE DOING?
NO, I'M GOING WITH YOU GUYS ! WAS ABOUT TO GO OFF TO COLLECT SOME NEW PLANTS FOR MY GARDEN ANYWAY.
WHAT?
WHY?!
BECAUSE IT SURE BEATS STAYING HERE. IF I STICK AROUND, THE DRAGON ELDERS WILL SUMMON ME,
AND I'LL BE FORCED TO LISTEN TO THEM LECTURE ME FOR THE NEXT 527 YEARS ABOUT LOSING MY BRIDE

HE CAN'T JUST ADMIT THAT HE LIKES HANGING WITH US.
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!
IT'S PLAINLY I TELL ME

HMMM ..
YOU'RE THE FAMOUS NOMI OF THE BLACK WISHSTONE, AREN'T YOU?
THAT'S QUITE AN INTERESTING EXPRESSION YOU HAVE ON YOUR FACE.

IS THIS GUY REALLY THAT SCARY? THE THOUGHT OF HIM FILLS YOUR HEART WITH FEAR, DOESN'T IT?
BOY, DO I FEEL SO SORRY FOR YOU!
YOU'RE PRETENDING TO BE FINE, BUT INSIDE, YOU'RE TREMBLING SO HARD THAT YOU CAN BARELY STAY ON YOUR FEET!

I SEE A PAIR OF RED EYES LURKING BEHIND YOUR SHADOW
YOUR PAST AS WELL AS YOUR FUTURE ARE IN THE HANDS OF THEIR MYSTERIOUS OWNER, AM I RIGHT?
I HATE TO SEE YOU BOW DOWN TO SOME FRAIL HUMAN
IF ANY HUMAN DARES TO ENTER AN AGREEMENT WITH YOU, I'LL STRIKE THEM DEAD!
STOP IT, NOMI.
WHY WOULD YOU DO A THING LIKE THAT?

CAREFUL...
CAREFUL...
7
SHUDDER
WHAT'RE YOU IT DOING?!
DAMN YOU! YOU DID THAT ON PURPOSE, DIDN'T YOU?!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET AWAY WITH THIS!
FOR VARIOUS REASONS EXPLAINED LAST CHAPTER, THE WHITE DRAGON HAS JOINED RIKA'S GROUP.

NO ONE ASKED YOU TO COME WITH US, YOU KNOW. IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE ARRANGEMENT, YOU CAN ALWAYS TRAVEL BY YOURSELF.
YEAH, RIGHT.
WASH YOUR MOUTH
BICKER
THAT'S TROUBLE FOR YOU!
NO ONE CAN HIDE FROM THAT GUY.
I HAD NO IDEA THAT HE COULD LOOK STRAIGHT INTO MY HEART.
THAT RED-EYED PERSON LURKING BEHIND YOUR SHADOW.
ARE YOU REALLY THAT AFRAID OF HIM?

I DON'T LIKE HIM AT ALL
HE SAID HE DOESN'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED, THAT HE'S JUST CURIOUS ..BUT THAT REALLY MEANS HE'S MEDDLESOME
STILL...
WOW!
I CAN BELIEVE I FOUND SUCH A RARE PLANT! IT SHALL BE MINE!
HAVEN'T YOU GOTTEN ENOUGH STUPID PLANTS? LOOK AT ALL OF THEM. HOW DO YOU PLAN ON CARRYING THEM HOME WITH YOU?
I'M NOT GOING TO ASK FOR YOUR HELP, SO MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS
OVERLOAD

SRRRIK
SNAP
I CAN'T EXPECT A USELESS NOVICE WIZARD LIKE YOU TO UNDERSTAND MY POWER
REALLY, ALL OF THIS NONSENSE IS JUST TOO FAR BEHIND ME.
SHRUG
EVERYTHING HE DOES TICKS ME OFF...!
I THINK MY QUESTIONS HAVE REALLY GOTTEN UNDER NOMI'S SKIN.
I'M SORRY BUT...
. I HAVE NO INTENTION OF HELPING YOU
HOW ANNOYING!
I REALLY HATE HIM!
WHAT'S WRONG, RUKA?
I'M JUST INTERESTED IN THE LEGENDARY PLANT THAT SHOULD BE THERE.

SIGH
MEW...
WHAT DID YOU SAY, KIKA?
IT'S GOOD THAT I'M BRINGING NOMI BACK, BUT WE ALSO HAVE UNWANTED TAGALONGS .
THIS ISN'T GOING TO GO DOWN WELL
IF HE SEES THAT I'VE BROUGHT THE WHITE DRAGON ALONG .
KIRIK...
WE HAVE GUESTS

IN THE MEANTIME, I'M GOING TO TAKE CARE OF THAT EXTRA SHADOW YOU'VE ACQUIRED.
I'D LIKE TO GREET HIM MYSELF, BUT I'M AFRAID NOMI WON'T LIKE IT.
KIRIK, GO OUT AND WELCOME HIM

SIERRA...
WHAT DID HE PROMISE YOU? I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'RE DOING THIS TO ME.
FREEDOM...
I'M SORRY, NOMI.
HE PROMISED ME MY FREEDOM.
HE PROMISED TO RELEASE ME FROM THE CONTRACT IN EXCHANGE FOR BRINGING YOU BACK.
I WANT TO BE FREE, TOO, NOMI
I HATE MYSELF FOR DOING THIS TO YOU, BUT I CAN'T HELP IT.
I UNDERSTAND, SIERRA. NOW IT MAKES SENSE
POOR SIERRA. DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE HE'LL KEEP HIS PROMISE?
HE NEVER DELIVERS ON ANYTHING HE SAYS.
UH...OVER THERE...
...IS THAT KIRIK?

IT IS! IT'S KIRIK!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
IT WAS HIM. HE'S THE ONE I SAW IN THE GRAND WIZARD'S FOREST!
HA-HA...I HAVE MY REASONS, DON'T WORRY.
IN ANY CASE, I'VE COME TO WELCOME YOU ALL
...NOM!...
RIKA..
...AND THE WHITE DRAGON.
IS THAT WHY HE CAME OUT INTO THE FOREST?

THE FOREST...
RIKA...
THE ENTIRE FOREST IS FRAGRANT WITH THE SMELL OF ROSES..
NO, NOT ROSES..SOMETHING SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT, BUT JUST AS STRONG...
RIKA, WHAT'S WAITING FOR US IN THOSE WOODS IS DIFFERENT FROM EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING YOU'VE ENCOUNTERED ON YOUR TRAVELS SO FAR.
EVEN THE SWORD MASTER OF BLACK IRON, THE DARK PRINCE
..AND THE WHITE DRAGON COMPARED TO HIM, THEY'RE ALL.
BE CAREFUL, RIKA...
NEVER LET YOUR GUARD DOWN AROUND OUR HOST.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I'LL STAY ON ALERT, BUT WHY WON'T YOU TELL ME WHY YOU'RE SO AFRAID OF SOMEONE WHO'S SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE A BROTHER TO YOU?
BECAUSE BEING LIKE A BROTHER...
. I KNOW HIM ALL TOO WELL.
.....
WOW!
THAT'S IT! IT'S THE ONE THING IS WHAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!
CAN I TAKE SOME OF THIS?
I KNOW IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO HIDE ANYTHING FROM YOU, DRAGON
OF COURSE, YOU CAN TAKE AS MUCH AS YOU WANT
EH? MINAL WHERE ARE YOU?

SO, YOU'VE FINALLY COME BACK.
TRUST ME, I DIDN'T WANT TO.
I PLAN TO LEAVE AGAIN.
I PROMISED SIERRA THAT I'D COME, BUT NOT THAT I'D STAY.
IN FACT, I COULD LEAVE NOW, RIGHT?
NOMI, DO YOU REALLY WANT TO SEE ME GET ANGRY? I SO DON'T WANT TO BE ANGRY WITH YOU.
IT DOESN'T MATTER. IT NEVER HAS.
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU'RE HERE NOW, WHATEVER THE REASON.

THE SWORD MASTER OF BLACK IRON WAS ABLE TO SEAL YOU INSIDE HIS SPELL ONLY BECAUSE YOU HAD TEMPORARILY LOST YOUR POWER.
OTHERWISE, HE WOULD HAVE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO CONTAIN YOU AND PASS YOU ON TO SOMEONE ELSE...
NOMI, HUMANS DESPISE US
NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE. YOU'RE WRONG
YOU SHOULD NEVER TRUST A HUMAN. CAN'T YOU SEE, NOMI? YOU MEAN NOTHING TO THAT GIRL.
THE SWORD MASTER OF BLACK IRON HAS ALREADY ABANDONED YOU...
...AND THAT GIRL RIKA WILL DO THE SAME. ONCE YOU'RE NO LONGER USEFUL TO THEM, IT'S ALL OVER
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT ABOUT RIKA! YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HER!
ARE YOU SO SURE? WAIT AND SEE FOR YOURSELF.
WHEN THE TIME COMES, SHE WILL GIVE YOU UP TRUST ME

NOMI?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE ALL BY YOURSELF? WHY DID YOU LEAVE ME?
RIKA!
RIKA! YOU FOOL! WHY DID YOU COME UP HERE
?
SO, THIS IS RIKA, IS IT? I'VE BEEN ANXIOUS TO MEET YOU.
REALLY WHY?
I HOPE I'M NOT BEING TOO FORWARD, BUT..
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? STAY OUT OF MY BUSINESS!
HE'S NOT THAT IMPORTANT TO YOU, IS HE?
...TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I WANT YOU TO RELEASE NOMI FROM THIS AGREEMENT WITH YOU.
COME NOW, ISN'T IT TRUE THAT THIS CONTRACT IS JUST SOMETHING YOU STUMBLED INTO?

WHAT'S HE SAYING?
CONTRACT WITH NOM!?
WHAT?
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT HIS CHORES, I CAN FIND YOU SOMEONE TO REPLACE NOM.
NOW...
PLEASE HAND OVER THE BLACK WISHSTONE. OR WOULD YOU PREFER TO BREAK THE CONTRACT YOURSELF?
TO BE CONTINUED IN 11TH CAT VOL. 4!

THE 1ST BONUS PAGES FOR THE 11TH CAT>!!
WOW! IT'S OUR DEBUT!
WE ARE GOING TO DRAW ILLUSTRATIONS ACCORDING TO THE READERS' REQUESTS.
I CAN'T TELL WHICH TEAM MISS HA YOUN PLAYS FOR...
THIS ONE COMES FROM MY FELLOW ARTIST NAMED LEE SHE WANTS A WITCH INSTEAD OF THE DARK PRINCE
[THE WITCH AND THE PRINCESS]
HOW ABOUT THAT?

NEXT UP...
I'D LIKE A SHOT OF THE SWORD MASTER OF BLACK IRON AND LOUIS HANGING OUT TOGETHER. PREFERABLY ENGAGED IN A ROMANTIC ENTANGLEMENT
소원하던 시에라 목도리를한 에세님
SHE'S WEARING THAT SIERRA MUFFLER SHE'S BEEN WANTING.
[THE SWORD MASTER OF BLACK IRON AND LOUIS]
H-NEXT, PLEASE...
HOW VERY AWKWARD...
[THE SWORD MASTER OF BLACK IRON AND ARTHUR--]
PUCK... ARE YOU OK?
BUT THAT ANYTHING'S WRONG WITH THAT...
THEY TRIED REAL HARD TO HIDE ARTHUR'S FACE.
BY THE WAY, WHO REQUESTED ARTHUR? HE DOESN'T EVEN APPEAR IN THE BOOK

HOW COME THERE'RE ONLY THREE FAN REQUESTS? THAT'S NO FUN.
OOPS.
I MADE UP ALL THE REQUESTS.
THE ARTIST WHO'S TOO LETTING HERSELF
I SEE YOU HAD A DEADLINE, YEAH? AND NO TIME TO WAIT?
SHUDDER
GOOOOD-BYEEEE!
ZOOOM
NOW THEN, WE'RE GOING TO DO IT RIGHT FROM NOW ON. IF YOU WANT A CERTAIN SCENARIO TO BE TURNED INTO A BONUS SHOT, WRITE TO US. HERE'S THE EMAIL ADDRESS. NEKOMARU@HANMAIL.NET
nekomaru@ hanmail.net

11th
CAT

Direct
from Korea,

ice Kunion

brings you
the best in
Korean Manhwa.

Rika and Nomi's Cute Fantasy
11th CAT
Volume 1 & 2 Summary
A magical voyage with Rika~!
Rika tries to become a wizard.
Eek!
Rika, attacked by the Snake Goblin!
Climbing to a cliff, Rika meets the Sword Master.
A grand scheme is hatched to rescue the princess.
Success!
Rika meets Nomi.
Rika gets the magic staff!
Rika visits the Grand Wizard to gain a magic staff.
At the Dark Prince's library, Rika finds a strange book.
She learns about her own past as well as the true identity of her uncle and aunts.
With her uncle and Nomi, Rika enters the strange world inside the book.
Can Rika successfully complete her training to become a real wizard? Only by following Rika on her adventure and living the excitement on the page can we know for sure!
Now, let's enjoy the third volume of The 11th Cat, as we enter the fantastic world of Rika and Nomi!

11th CAT

RIKA AND HER UNCLE GO INTO A MAGICAL JOURNEY INTO THE SECRET SPECIAL BOOK LOOKING FOR THE INHERITANCE HER FATHER HAD LEFT BEHIND FOR HER. BUT ONCE THEY ARRIVE AT THE DESTINATION, IT'S QUITE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT RIKA EXPECTED. THIS PLACE IS BLOODY SCARY AND ON TOP OF IT, HER UNCLE IS NOW TRYING TO KILL NOMI! WHAT'S GOING ON IN HERE? MORE OF RIKA'S PAST IS REVEALED IN THIS THIRD VOLUME OF THE EXCITING ADVENTURE OF RIKA AND NOMI!

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